

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77321

Hiroshi OKUMURA

Appln. No.: 10/773,333

Group Art Unit: 3663

Confirmation No.: 8920

Examiner: Johannes P. MONDT

Filed: February 9, 2004

For: THIN FILM TRANSISTOR SUBSTRATE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
THE SAME

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please review and enter the following remarks summarizing the interview conducted on
June 9, 2009:

REMARKS

A personal interview with Examiner Johannes Mondt of the United States Patent Office
was initiated by Applicant's representative, Andrew J. Taska.

During the interview, the viability of the arguments advanced with the Amendment
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 was discussed with the Examiner.

The Examiner indicated that the previous objections to the specification would be
overcome as a result of the amendments to the specification included in the previous
Amendment.

The Examiner was not persuaded by arguments that one of ordinary skill in the art would not reasonably interpret the claimed “channel region” to include any impurity doping region contiguous with a region that is at least during the ON state. The Examiner confirmed that he interprets the claimed “channel region” to require little more than an electron path between a source and a drain. Thus, the Examiner maintained his position that the region marked $P:5E19/cm^3$ on the right side of Nakamura’s Drawing 4A, or alternatively a sub-portion of the darkened region marked $P:4E17/cm^3$, correspond to the recited “first channel region.”

Applicant’s representative rebutted the Examiner’s allegations to this effect by pointing out that Nakamura clearly teaches that the region marked $P:5E19/cm^3$ does comprise a source/drain region and, thus, the Examiner’s reasoning in the grounds of rejection is unsupportable. In response, the Examiner conceded that the allegations in the grounds of rejection that the region marked $P:5E19/cm^3$ corresponds to the claimed “channel region” were an error. Nevertheless, the Examiner maintained that the darkened region marked $P:4E17/cm^3$ in Nakamura still reads on the claimed “channel region.”

Applicant’s representative argued that the term “channel region” has a plain meaning to those of ordinary skill in the art that is clearly distinguishable from Nakamura’s LDD region marked $P:4E17/cm^3$. Applicant’s representative also argued that the cited Nakamura reference itself distinguishes between a channel region (i.e., the region marked $B:2E16/cm^3$) and the LDD region marked $P:4E17/cm^3$ and that, therefore, Nakamura expressly teaches away from the Examiner’s proposed interpretation. The Examiner was not persuaded by these arguments and maintained that the only essential physical quantities of a “channel region” are the relative

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position of the region and the relative electrical conductivity of the region (which is determined by doping).

The Examiner indicated that amending the claims to specify a particular dopant conductive type and/or doping concentration, would likely overcome the current rejections.

No immediate agreement with the Examiner as to the allowability of the pending claims. No exhibits or demonstrations were provided.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

It is believed that no petition or fee is required. However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Andrew J. Taska /

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Date: June 15, 2009

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